



# NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Rural Development

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## **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR CRIMS CHAPEL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**HENDERSON, TEXAS, February 8, 2006** – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, today presented a ceremonial check to the Crims Chapel Volunteer Fire Department, which was selected to receive a \$1,050 grant through the agency's Community Facilities Grant Program. The funds were used to assist in the purchase of air foam equipment that is mounted onto an all wheel drive apparatus. This equipment allows accessibility to remote locations in the event of wildfires to secure structures only accessible to off road vehicles. The foam system increases the apparatuses water attack capabilities by 1,000 gallons. The Crims Chapel Volunteer Fire Department serves 1,500 rural citizens in a service area of 60 square miles.

"This grant makes it possible for the Crims Chapel Volunteer Fire Department to upgrade their equipment, and effectively protect and serve the County of Rusk," said Daniel. "USDA Rural Development is committed to providing funding for rural towns and communities to help ensure the safety of their citizens."

USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities grant funds may be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and public services. These loans and grants are made to public entities and non-profit organizations. Examples of eligible projects include rural healthcare clinics, town halls, fire trucks, county safety equipment, Jaws of Life, early warning systems, community centers, libraries, day care centers, and schools.

USDA Rural Development strives to ensure that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Henderson Local Office at (903) 657-8221, Ext. 4 or visit our website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/tx/>.

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